

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 04891 310332Z

14-12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

AID-05 SR-02 ORM-01 EUR-12 /086 W

----- 130398

R 301150Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE 339

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 4891

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, BG

SUBJ: PAKISTAN-BANGLADESH RELATIONS

REF: DACCA 2101

1. MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL (SOUTH ASIA) HAYAT MEHDI
ACKNOWLEDGED TO POL COUNSELOR MAY 28 THAT FROM GOP
VIEWPOINT TOO PAK-BD RELATIONS WERE ON DEAD CENTER.
IF ANYTHING, MEHDI NOTED, PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS
TOWARD NORMALIZATION ARE LESS FAVORABLE THAN THEY HAD
BEEN EARLIER.

2. MEHDI SAID THAT UNTIL RECENTLY BDG HAD CONTINUED
TO SEND MESSAGES TO GOP VIA THIRD COUNTRY TRAVELLERS
INDICATING A WILLINGNESS TO RESUME DISCUSSIONS ON
NORMALIZATION. HE MENTIONED SHEIKH ZAID OF UAE AND
BRITS AMONG THESE MESSENGERS. ACCORDING TO MEHDI,
SUBSTANCE OF BDG MESSAGES HAD BEEN TOUGHER THAN THESE
PASSED EARLIER THROUGH USG. INSTEAD OF CALLING FOR TALKS
WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS, BDG HAD BEGUN TO INSIST ON
ADVANCE PAK UNDERTAKINGS ON DIVISION OF PRE-1971 ASSETS
AND REPATRIATION OF 63,000 BIHARI FAMILIES STILL IN
BD. PAKS HAD PASSED MESSAGES BACK REITERATING
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 04891 310332Z

WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS

AND TO SET UP FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE ON ASSETS/
LIABILITIES ISSUE. MEHDI SAID BDG HAD NOT FOLLOWED UP
THESE RESPONSES.

3. MEHDI ALSO NOTED THAT PASSAGE AT BDG INSTIGATION
OF COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON PAK-BD
RELATIONS (ISLAMABAD 4432) HAD ALSO SETBACK
POSSIBILITIES FOR NORMALIZATION.
BYROADE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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05 JUL 2006

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